

ABSTRACT

A method of allocating a location-related order to one of a number of mobile agents, such as taxicabs, delivery or repair vehicles. The method involves the following steps:

- a) holding current order details which identify at least the location and time at which each agent is expected to become free to fulfil new orders;
- b) keeping a listing of locations, where each location in the listing is prioritised for an agent according to the availability of the agent to reach that location after the agent becomes free;
- c) receiving a new order and recording the location and time at which this order is to be fulfilled;
- d) deciding, based on the prioritised listing of locations, which agent(s) are most suitable to take the new order; and
- e) allocating the new order to the identified agent(s).